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MARTLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

ENGINEER, SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1958



L. Spencer Stephens,
Medical Officer of Health.

A. L. Pratt,
Engineer, Surveyor & Chief
Public Health Inspector.

MARTLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1958-59

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L. Spencer Stephens, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

A. L. Pratt, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

W. R. Smith, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Additional Public Health Inspector and Assistant Engineer
and Surveyor.

E. J. Turner
Housing Manager and Architectural Assistant.

K. J. Cottrell
Clerical Assistant (Resigned December 1958)

Miss S. M. Hall
Shorthand Typist and Clerk.

H. Dew
Assistant Rodent Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1958

Public Health Department,
1, The Tything,
Worcester.

July, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the Martley Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

Analysis of the Statistics shown in Section A indicates that the health of the population remains very satisfactory. Birth and Death Rates remain close to the National Averages but the Infant Mortality Rate still tends to be higher than normal (36.1 per 1000). This is unrelated to illegitimacy as, although there were twelve illegitimate births, none died during the first year of life. The lowering of moral standards is to be deplored, however, and I only repeat the remarks I made in 1955, that all responsible citizens must set a good example in their married lives and the upbringing of their children. Financial provision for the child's future is too often neglected by the parent leaving the Council to make provision for the re-housing of newly-weds. If this is not achieved, the early years of married life are spent struggling along under conditions which are likely to be a strain on any normal marriage and too frequently lead to divorce or separation. With the expectation of life increased so that many old people live to 80 or 90 it is prudent to lay the seeds of a long and happy married life by providing a home for the family at an early date.

Infectious diseases have virtually been eliminated as a serious threat to life, leaving only cancer, cardiac disease and chronic respiratory infection as the main causes of death in later life (see page 4.). A healthier environment is being provided by the extension of new water and sewerage schemes throughout the district, but housing standards are steadily deteriorating, and it is disappointing to discover so many people live in dwellings which fall into the Slum Clearance category or suffer from serious disrepair.

Mental ill-health is rapidly assuming greater importance than physical disease, the former stemming from a crumbling society based upon what used to be sound family relationships. It must be recognised that the united family is the basis for contemporary society and all efforts directed towards that end. It is encouraging to see that the County Council is holding a Conference on Homeless Families, and problem families are receiving more individual attention. The new legislation resulting from the Report of the Royal Commission on Mental Illness should also have far reaching consequences.

It is interesting to consider how intimately my work as Assistant County and School Medical Officer is related to that of District Medical Officer of Health. More and more time is being spent nowadays on Vaccination and Immunisation procedures but these are important preventive measures responsible for the health of the community. Diphtheria immunisation has now been replaced by combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough immunisation and the number of acceptances has increased (page 6).

The notifications of Whooping Cough were only 10 in 1958 compared with 52 in 1957. Figures for Poliomyelitis Vaccination are published by the County Medical Officer. The response has been good and I am certain the results will be seen in the absence of notifications. No cases were notified during 1958. B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis has continued for thirteen year old schoolchildren and the Minister is extending its scope. There were only four new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in 1958. Mass Radiography, of course, plays an important part in the detection of this disease, the Unit visiting the District in August. The response was poor, however, less than 10 per cent of the population covered attending (see page¹⁵).

Once again, Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank you for your kind consideration and express my gratitude to the Surveyor and his staff for their most valuable assistance during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. Spencer Stephens,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Rural District of Martley, comprising 52,823 acres is predominantly agricultural in character and lies to the West of the City of Worcester. The River Teme runs through the district dividing it into two parts. The chief industry is agriculture and the district is one of the most important fruit and hop growing areas in the country. Each year the hop picking season attracts large numbers of people to the district. These come mainly from the Black Country.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	52,823
Number of dwellinghouses (31st December 1958) according to Rate Books	3,967
Rateable Value (1st April, 1958)...	£82,647
Sum represented by one penny rate..	£339. 7. 9.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid 1958)	11,990

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate..	82	72	154
Illegitimate	5	7	12
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			7.2
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			14.3.
Birth Rate for England and Wales for the same period			16.4

<u>Still Births</u>			
Legitimate..	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			23.5
Rate per 1,000 England and Wales total live and still births			21.6

<u>Deaths</u>			
From all causes...	70	53	123
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			9.9
Rate for England and Wales ...			11.7

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</u>			
Legitimate..	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (total)			36.1
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate)			39.0
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (illegitimate)			Nil
Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales			22.5

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</u>			
Legitimate..	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			12.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate for England and Wales			16.3
Maternal deaths (including abortion) ...	-	1	1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live & still births			5.9
Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales			0.43

Causes of Death as Classified by the Registrar General

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Cancer of Stomach	1	1
Cancer of Lung	2	1
Cancer of Breast	-	2
Cancer of Uterus	-	-
Cancer of all other sites	8	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
Diabetes	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	10
Coronary disease, angina	8	7
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	1
Other heart disease.	14	12
Other circulatory disease.	-	2
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	1	3
Bronchitis	11	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis... ..	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate... ..	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	1
Congenital malformations..	3	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	3
Motor vehicle accidents... ..	2	-
All other accidents.	1	1
Suicide.	-	-
Homicide and operations of war..	-	-
	<hr/> 70 <hr/>	<hr/> 53 <hr/>

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Services

Laboratory services are provided at laboratories situated at the County Buildings and the Royal Infirmary, Worcester.

(b) Ambulance Service

This service is provided by the County Council. The ambulance station which serves the district is situated in Worcester. The Hospital Car Service, manned in most cases by volunteers, is used to supplement the ambulance service.

Patients suffering from infectious disease are conveyed to hospital in special ambulances which are stationed at the Isolation Hospital.

(c) Home Nursing and Health Visiting Service

This service is provided by the County Council. In most instances in the Rural District this work is done by the District Nurse/Midwife, who is also the Health Visitor. Five District Nurse/Midwives are working in the District full-time and two part-time.

(d) Hospitals

The District is served by general hospitals in Worcester and Kidderminster.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Newtown Isolation Hospital, Worcester.

Maternity cases can be admitted to hospitals at Worcester, Bromsgrove and Stourport.

Sanatoria for the treatment of cases of tuberculosis are situated in Worcester, Malvern and Knightwick.

(e) Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children.

The District is served by the following clinics:-

Ante-Natal Clinics

Shirehall, Worcester

Open on the first and third Saturday in the month at 10 a.m.

Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stourport

Open every Tuesday in the month at 1.30 p.m.

Coventry Street, Kidderminster

Open every Monday in the month at 2 p.m.

Infant Welfare Clinics

Shirehall, Worcester

Open on the first and third Saturday in the month at 10 a.m.

Parish Hall, Hallow

Open on the second and fourth Thursday in the month at 2 p.m.

Club Room, Bell Inn, Broadheath

Open on the first and third Thursday in the month at 2.30 p.m.

Section B - (Cont'd)

Infant Welfare Clinics

Chantry School, Martley

Open on second Wednesday in the month at 2 p.m.

Village Hall, Alfrick

Open on the third Friday in the month at 2.30 p.m.

Parish Hall, Clifton-on-Teme

Open on the second Tuesday in the month at 2.30 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Leigh

Open on the second Thursday in the month at 2.30 p.m.

Village Hall, Great Witley

Open on the fourth Tuesday every other month at 2.30 p.m.

Village Hall, Little Witley

Open on the fourth Tuesday every other month at 3.30 p.m.

Village Hall, Shrawley

Open on the fourth Tuesday every other month at 2 p.m.

Parish Room, Holt

Open on the fourth Tuesday every other month at 3 p.m.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough can be carried out, free of charge, by the patient's own doctor or at the County Council clinics. It is now standard practice to offer combined immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough at 4-6 months old and a booster dose at 5 years.

The following inoculations were done during the year:-

Diphtheria Immunisation (including Whooping Cough)

Number of children who received the full course of immunisation during the year - 197 (119)

117 Number of children who received reinforcing doses during the year - (64)

Vaccination

147 Number of persons who received a primary vaccination during the year - (133)

Number of persons who were re-vaccinated during the year - 15 (26)

* Figures in brackets show the numbers for the previous year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, SECTION 47, AND AMENDMENT ACT 1951

These sections place on district Medical Officers of Health the responsibility of obtaining compulsory powers for the removal to institutions of persons who are in need of care and attention. No statutory action was necessary during 1958.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

The official opening of the Council's new Waterworks at Astley took place on the 25th January, 1958. The year will undoubtedly be remembered in the annals of Martley District as one when a piped water supply was assured. In fact, pumping had already commenced and consumption risen to some 64,000 gallons a day over the previous four months but by the end of 1958 it had risen to over 100,000 gallons a day.

Further progress was made with Part II of the Water Scheme during the year. Provision was made for water mains throughout the parishes of Abberley, Great Witley, Hillhampton, Holt and the remainder of Cotheridge. A substantial proportion of the work on the 110,000 gallon reservoir on Abberley Hill was completed. The construction of the Redmarley Booster Station was completed but the pumping equipment had not been installed. Plans were also made to commence Part III of the Scheme as soon as possible in 1959.

It was decided as a result of meetings with the other constituent Authorities, that it was in the interests of Martley District Council to join the proposed North-West Worcestershire Water Board. Detailed consideration was given to the Draft Order which included the following points:-

- (1) The appointed day was to be 1st July 1959, the various undertakings being transferred on 1st October 1959.
- (2) The Board would consist of 14 members, two each from Kidderminster and Stourbridge Borough, and one from each of the other Districts and the County Council.
- (3) The Parish of Leigh would be excluded from the limits of supply of Malvern Urban District and included in the Scheme.
- (4) Every officer employed solely on waterworks would become an officer of the Board.
- (5) Martley and Tenbury Rural District would pay special contributions annually for ten years owing to heavy commitments under their new schemes.
- (6) A standard water rate to be charged to all consumers of domestic supplies in the Board's area would be fixed before the appointed day.

Section C - (Cont'd)

2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes

The Astley Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme was commenced in July 1958 and fairly good progress was made until the winter weather set in. By the end of the year the main 9-inch outfall sewer had virtually been completed, the settlement tank and bacteria bed were 75 per cent complete, the sludge drying beds had been constructed but not filled, and the brickwork of the sludge pumping station had been completed to window cill level.

As improvements were being carried out to the School, and a number of other properties could be included, Ministry approval was obtained to the extension of the sewer from Manhole 9 to 21 through Lower Town, and arrangements made for the same contractor to carry out the work.

The table shown opposite shows some modification compared with previous years due to the large number of tappings to the public mains (See Surveyor's Report, page 24).

PARISH	From Public Mains				From Private Supplies, e.g. wells, springs		Sewerage and Sewage Disposal				
	Direct to Houses	By means of stand-pipe	No. of Dwelling houses	Population supplied	No. of Dwelling houses	Population supplied	No. of Dwellings connected to public sewer.	Population served	No. of Houses with		
									Pails	Septic tanks etc.	Private installations.
Abberley	-	-	-	-	156	498	28	87	65	63	-
Alfrick	-	-	-	-	140	445	17	55	69	49	5
Astley	101	336	7	25	252	479	-	-	250	80	30
Bransford	3	10	-	-	84	266	-	-	58	29	-
Broadheath	144	432	7	22	157	487	83	253	141	76	8
Broadwas	43	132	4	15	47	139	-	-	49	40	5
Clifton-on-Teme	100	305	3	11	35	102	75	230	48	14	1
Cotheridge	37	108	2	6	31	85	14	58	25	22	9
Doddenham	29	84	6	15	36	126	-	-	46	23	2
Grimley	68	190	-	-	122	346	-	-	122	67	1
Hallow	242	736	12	36	117	379	248	750	90	24	9
Hillhampton	-	-	-	-	33	102	-	-	18	9	6
Holt	53	148	-	-	70	211	20	64	72	28	3
Kenswick	-	-	-	-	9	29	-	-	1	8	-
Knightwick	-	-	-	-	40	129	-	-	33	7	-
Leigh	-	-	-	-	303	975	30	94	220	53	4
Lulsley	4	14	-	-	42	128	-	-	30	12	-
Martley	-	-	-	-	185	580	-	-	176	61	7
St. John County	115	360	3	7	60	172	59	181	13	26	2
Lower Sapey	233	708	4	14	51	161	256	770	32	10	1
Shelsley Beauchamp	-	-	-	-	60	183	8	26	45	14	1
Shelsley Kings	-	-	-	-	70	225	-	-	61	8	1
Shelsley Walsh	-	-	-	-	13	42	-	-	11	2	-
Shrawley	-	-	-	-	71	227	-	-	121	32	1
Suckley	70	215	13	43	163	520	-	-	113	30	1
Wichenford	-	-	-	-	69	210	19	58	68	27	-
Witley, Great	61	192	-	-	125	395	35	108	54	34	-
Witley, Little	-	106	-	-	28	84	16	52	33	13	-
Total	1337	4086	61	194	2569	7725	943	2896	2064	861	99

SECTION D

HOUSING

The following table shows the housing work carried out in the district during the year:-

Number of new houses erected during the year

(1)	by the Local Authority	Nil
(2)	by other bodies or persons.	62

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses

(1)(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Act or Housing Acts)..	43
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	59
(2)(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under One above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	15
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	15
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. ...	29

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	22
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3. Action under Statutory Powers

A	<u>Proceedings under Sections 9 & 10 of the Housing Act 1957</u>	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
	by owners..	Nil
	by local authority in default of owners.. ...	Nil
B	<u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts</u>	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. ...	3
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
	by owners..	3
	by local authority in default of owners.. ...	Nil

Section D - (Cont'd)

C	<u>Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 & 23 of the Housing Act 1957</u>						
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made						5
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders... ..						5
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted						4
D	<u>Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957</u>						
(1)	Number of separate dwellings, parts of a dwelling or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made						1
(2)	Number of separate dwellings, parts of a dwelling or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling or room having been rendered fit..						Nil

4. Housing Act, 1957 (Part IV) - Overcrowding

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of this year	} Not known	
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein... ..		
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein		
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year Nil		
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1	
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases... ..	7	
	(iii)	Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved.	Nil	

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Few changes have taken place in this field during the year. The only ice cream manufacturer operating in the District discontinued due to the high competitive standard required but the number of premises retailing the pre-packed product increased slightly. With a bakehouse closing down shortly and no pasteurisation plants in the District, it is obvious that most of the villages are becoming more and more dependent on delivery services from the City or adjoining towns. Meat inspection remains unaltered and the meat sold at both premises was of a high quality. From the figures shown below one cannot help thinking that the work would more advantageously be carried out centrally. No definite decision has been made yet under the Slaughterhouses Act 1958 and much depends on the facilities which Worcester City are able to provide should the Slaughterhouse owners fail to bring their premises up to the standard required. Further details are available on page 30 of the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

The following table shows the amount of meat inspected:-

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	93	-	-	265	79	-
Number inspected	93	-	-	265	79	-
<u>All disease except Tuber- culosis & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	7	3	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci.	6.4	-	-	3.05	3.7	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.2	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable disease which occurred in the District during the year:-

	Under 1	1 -	3 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	25 -	65 -	Total cases Notified
1. Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	8	1	1	-	-	12
3. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Acute Primary Pneumonia	-	-	1	2	1	1	6	2	13
7. Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Measles (ex. Rubella)	1	11	15	31	3	-	1	-	62
10. Whooping Cough	2	1	2	5	-	-	-	-	10
11. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14. Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1958

Age Period	New cases				Deaths +			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-

+ Compiled from the Tuberculosis Register and
Local Registrar's Death Returns

Number of Cases of Tuberculosis on Register at the end of the year

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Annual Totals
	M	F	M	F	
1950	33	27	15	18	93
1951	34	28	16	18	96
1952	37	33	13	15	98
1953	34	36	12	13	95
1954	27	41	11	11	90
1955	31	42	9	11	93
1956	36	41	9	13	99
1957	32	33	4	7	76
1958	26	31	4	5	66

B.C.G. Vaccination

Worcestershire County Council operate a scheme for the preventive inoculation of all children leaving school. The majority of parents agree to have their children done, and it may be said that the scheme has met with considerable success. This is a valuable protective measure against tuberculosis.

Section F - (Cont'd)

Dudley Mobile Mass Radiography Unit
Survey of Martley Rural District.

The Unit visited the following locations which, together with the surrounding districts, show an estimated population of 4,873.

The Crown Inn, Martley
Village Green, Hallow
Somers Arms, Leigh Sinton
Whitehall Inn, Rushwick
Village Hall, Alfrick

A total of 473 persons were x-rayed in the following groups:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public	189	230	419
Industry	32	20	52
M.O.H. Referrals		2	2
	<u>221</u>	<u>252</u>	<u>473</u>

Following the examination of the small films by the Director of the Unit, Dr. Posner, seven cases were referred to Dr. Moyes, Chest Physician of Worcester Royal Infirmary, for large films. From these, only one case of active tuberculosis was discovered and this gives a case incidence of 2.1 per thousand which is about average for a rural district.

MARTLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ENGINEER, SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
1, The Tything,
Worcester.

September, 1959.

To the Rural District Council of Martley

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the twelfth Annual Report on the work of my Department as related to the administration of the Rural District for the year ended 31st December 1958.

During the year emphasis has again been placed on the Mains Water Scheme, the main factors being the provision of supplies to consumers and ironing out the minor difficulties which arise with a new scheme. The demand for mains water was greater than anticipated and, as will be seen from the table on page 24, the percentage of premises adjacent to the mains which were connected was nearly 65 for all parishes having this supply. Practically one third of the water consumed was taken for agricultural or business use. Towards the end of the year the Consulting Engineers were provided with the scheme of alignment of mains for Part III of the comprehensive scheme and it is hoped that some parishes in this part of the scheme will be supplied towards the end of 1959 or early 1960 and that the scheme will be completed in 1961.

The continuing high building costs and rates of interest again resulted in the Council deciding not to erect any new houses in the year under review. The need is mainly for old persons bungalows, which would assist in reducing the under-occupation of existing houses, but the economic rents to be charged were thought to be beyond the means of the tenants requiring re-housing. If the interest rate for money borrowed for housing could be lowered and held at that rate for a specified period, the Council could then formulate a building programme to include slum clearance and some building for general need.

During the year extensive repairs to the office building were carried out, resulting in my Department having to work in cramped and unsatisfactory conditions for several months. I wish to express my thanks to them for their cheerful acceptance of the conditions and continued efficient co-operation.

May I also express my appreciation of the assistance and consideration afforded to me by the Chairman and members of the various Committees.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. L. PRATT.

Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

1. TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING AND BUILDING BYELAWS

The duties delegated to the Council by the County Council under the Town and Country Planning Acts continued to be carried out. Three "differences of opinion" between the Council and the County Planning Officer relating to residential development at Broadwas, Hallow and Broadheath were all resolved by the County Planning Committee in favour of the County Planning Officer.

The following appeals against decisions of the Council were made during the year and, in every case, the Minister dismissed the appeal:-

- (a) Erection of a dwelling, Clap Hill Lane, Rushwick.
- (b) Petrol filling station, Cotheridge.
- (c) Residential development, Shoulton Lane, Hallow.
- (d) Erection of dutch barn and use of agricultural land as lorry park, Shelsley Beauchamp.
- (e) Residential development, Little Heath, Broadwas.
- (f) Retention of caravan, Burf Farm, Astley.
- (g) Holiday caravan site, Rectory Lane, Shrawley.

Few cases of unauthorised development were reported and in two cases only was enforcement action authorised.

The Planning Committee gave consideration as a matter of policy to the re-erection of prefabricated bungalows in the district and it was decided that this type of dwelling should be discouraged.

Details of applications to develop are given in tabular form below:-

	Plans for new con- struction	Outline appli- cations	Change of use of land and buildings	Total
Brought forward from 1957	5	2	1	8
Received during 1958	104	60	29	193
Total applications	109	62	30	201
Applications approved	98	41	22	161
Applications refused	5	12	6	23
Applications withdrawn	1	3	1	5
Applications outstanding	5	6	1	12
Total	109	62	30	201

In addition, 27 applications for renewals of temporary planning permissions were issued and these related to 29 caravans, 3 temporary buildings and 3 wooden bungalows.

Applications under Building Byelaws

Brought forward from 1957	-	4	
Received during 1958	-	164	
			168
Applications approved		163	
Applications refused		2	
Applications withdrawn		1	
Applications outstanding		2	
			168

2. HOUSING

Provision of Housing Accommodation

	Council Houses	Private Houses		Total
		Subsidy	Others	
No. of houses under construction 1.1.58	-	1	33	34
No. of houses completed & occupied during 1958	-	1	61	62
No. of houses under construction 31.12.58	-	-	20	20

(a) By the Council

As will be seen from the above table no new Council houses were under construction or completed during the year and this is the second year that this has occurred. The only units of accommodation to be provided by the Council were two bungalows converted from an existing building at Martley which were under construction at the end of the year.

A full report on the need for new housing in the District, the resources of the Council in sites and services, and the cost of erection was presented to the Council in May and it was finally decided in October to build six units of accommodation on each of two sites with a view to providing accommodation for old people already living in larger Council houses. The construction of these houses will have to await the provision of the mains water supply which it is anticipated will become available towards the end of 1959. Difficulty is likely to be experienced in keeping the rents of this accommodation at a suitable level for the type of tenant proposed even with the help of any subsidies which can be claimed.

A revision of the list of applicants for Council houses was carried out in January and the number on the register at that time was 141.

(b) By Private Enterprise

62 new private houses were completed during the year, 26 of these being on a private housing estate adjoining the Worcester City boundary.

The following table shows the units of accommodation provided during the past eleven years:-

Year	Council Houses	Private Houses				Total
		Min. of Works Licence	Subsidy	Private	Con-versions	
1948	51	-	-	25	8	84
1949	21	-	-	11	-	32
1950	34	1	4	12	2	53
1951	35	2	3	3	4	47
1952	6	2	9	7	8	32
1953	36	4	2	21	-	63
1954	34	1	1	32	1	69
1955	36	39	1	6	3	85
1956	14	-	1	55	3	73
1957	-	-	-	57	3	60
1958	-	-	1	61	-	62
Total	267	49	22	290	32	660

Rent Act, 1957

Certificates of disrepair were issued in two cases only and it would appear that this Act has been little used in this district by landlord or tenant. No figures are available as to the number of houses the rents of which have been increased but it is apparent that this number is small.

Improvement and Conversion Grants

The table given overleaf shows that the number of applications for grants increased slightly but that the average grant per house remained the same. Difficulty was experienced by many applicants in obtaining estimates from builders and this has reduced the number of completed dwellings during the year.

The number of individual dwellings forming the subject of formal applications since 1950, together with the number completed, are given below:-

Year	Rec'vd	Withdrawn	Refused	Approved	Out-standing	Completed	Amount of Grant £
1950	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
1951	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
1952	1	-	1	-	-	1	299
1953	10	4	1	5	-	-	-
1954	21	-	1	17	-	11	2,920
1955	41	5	3	36	-	29	7,372
1956	36	-	1	33	2	22	5,102
1957	35	-	2	30	3	32	8,304
1958	41	-	1	40	-	29	6,597
Total	187	9	11	162	5	124	30,594

Average Grant per house - £256.

Average approved expenditure per house - £552.

The total cost to the Council of completed improvements to 124 houses, based on 25% of the grants given, is £7,648 or £62 per house.

The applications for grants to individual dwellings approved by the Council since 1950 have been analysed to show the occupation of the dwellings, i.e. whether owner/occupied or tenanted, and the amount of work carried out as reflected by the cost and this information is shown in the table below:-

Approved Applications for Grants

Occupation	No.	Approved expenses per dwelling		
		Under £400	£400-£800	Over £800
Owner/Occupier	73	25	32	16
Tenant	89	33	41	15
Total	162	58	73	31

Council House Maintenance and Repair

The recommendations of the Housing Committee, as listed in the 1957 Report, on the general policy of repair and maintenance were put into practice during the year with the following effect:-

- (a) All external painting was carried out by contract as from the 1st April and two painters employed by the Council were discharged.
- (b) In order to expedite pre-painting joinery repairs, machinery was provided for the joiner's shop.
- (c) The rents of all houses were increased on the 1st April by approximately 10 per cent.
- (d) The number of houses painted externally during the year was designed to give a five year painting programme.

In addition, the Housing Account showed a balance during the financial year and it is hoped to increase this gradually each year to act as a reserve for the carrying out of certain types of improvements and emergency repairs. The modernisation of pre-war houses following the provision of mains water supply in many parishes was deferred for this year owing to the high interest rates and the consequent reflection upon the rents. One pilot scheme for eight houses at Ridleys Cross, Astley was carried out and the rent increase amounted to 1/- per week.

External decoration was carried out during the year on the following sites:-

Council Houses, Lulsley	4
Council Houses, Sinton Green, Grimley	10
Bungalows, Sinton Green, Grimley	6
Walton Lane, Grimley	4
Council Houses, Leigh Sinton	6
The Village, Clifton-on-Teme	12
Airey Houses, Suckley	16
Prickley Lane, Martley	4
Jury Lane, Martley	16
Clay Green, Alfrick	16
	—
	94
	—

Electrical re-wiring to 14 bungalows at Shelsley Beauchamp had to be carried out and tenders were invited for the provision of electricity to the last Council houses to be supplied in the district at Shelsley Walsh.

Eviction proceedings were taken against one tenant and this is the first case for sometime where such action has had to be taken.

Re-housing

During the year 15 lettings of Council houses were made as compared with 17 in 1957 and 34 in 1956. Of these lettings 6, or 35 per cent, were made to families recommended on public health grounds for the following reasons :-

<u>Medical</u>	<u>Overcrowding</u>	<u>Structurally Defective Houses.</u>	<u>Slum Clearance</u>
-	2	4	-

No house was allocated specifically to a tuberculosis patient.

Slum Clearance

Details of properties dealt with are contained in Section D of the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

The lack of new Council houses to accommodate tenants to be displaced from slum property has restricted the demolition of such property to unoccupied houses and every endeavour is made to take immediate action when sub-standard houses are known to be, or likely to be, vacated. The number of houses which can be dealt with in this manner is small and does not compare with the undertaking given by the Council to the Ministry in 1955. In many cases the tenants now living in unsatisfactory houses are unable to afford the economic rent which would have to be charged for a new house and this is a problem which will have to be solved before any real progress in slum clearance can be made.

3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The maintenance of all sewers and treatment works has continued to be carried out by a staff of two men and the condition of the larger works has improved with the regular attention given to them. The only serious complaint received was from the Severn River Board and related to the effluent from the Hallow works. As mentioned in previous reports these works are heavily overloaded and it is only by constant attention that they are kept in working condition. Housing development in Hallow will have to be restricted until new works have been provided and this should be considered in the very near future.

Attention is now being given to increasing the maintenance work to septic tanks, etc. serving small groups of Council Houses and, when such houses are modernised, additional works will be required at many sites to give adequate treatment.

Treatment works of varying sizes are now in operation at:-

Abberley	Hallow	Suckley
Alfrick	Holt	Wichenford
Broadheath	Martley	Great Witley
Clifton-on-Teme	Lower Wick	Little Witley
Cotheridge	Sapey Pitchard	

In addition, over 50 septic tanks or cesspits deal with the drainage from small Council estates.

The following alterations and additions have been made during the year:-

Broadheath - After the completion of the new works at The Common, the small plant at Partridge Farm was demolished.

Astley - A tender for the scheme covering the area adjoining the Council's mains water supply source was accepted in February and work started in September. Progress has been slow due to the presence of hard sandstone rock on practically every length of sewer.

An extension to this scheme to cover the area adjoining the School was approved by the Minister during the year.

Hallow - A length of private sewer, 6" in diameter and 112 yards long, was taken over and vested in the Council.

Rushwick - A length of private sewer, 6" in diameter and 187 yards long, was taken over and vested in the Council.

Future Schemes

During the year the Council instructed their Consulting Engineer to prepare schemes for the Bransford and Sinton Green areas.

House Drainage

The following new drainage installations were approved and installed during the year:-

	<u>New Houses</u>	<u>Existing Houses</u>	<u>Total</u>
Septic Tanks	16	33	49
Connections to public sewer	43	3	46
Connections to private treatment plants	2	2	4
Total	<u>61</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>99</u>

The mechanical cesspool emptiers owned by Droitwich R.D.C. and Stourport U.D.C. were hired frequently during the year; septic tanks to 54 private houses and settlement tanks to 32 treatment plants on Council housing estates were emptied during the year, in the former case the cost was re-charged to the owners or occupiers of the property.

A table showing the number of houses connected to public sewers, etc., in each parish is contained in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

4. WATER SUPPLY

Private Supplies

No shortage of water to private premises occurred during the year and no water was carted by the Council during this period.

30 samples from wells and springs were submitted for examination of which 16 were unsatisfactory bacteriologically and 4 were unsatisfactory chemically.

Public Supplies

Details of the number of houses supplied from public mains are contained in the report of the Medical Officer of Health and these are analysed in the table below:-

Mains Water Supply - Provision to Premises - 31.12.58

Parish	Premises in Parish											
	Total 31.12.58 A	Adjacent to Mains B	Connected to Mains 31.12.57				Connected to Mains 31.12.58				Total	
											As % of A	As % of B
			Dom.	Bus.	Ag.	Tot.	Dom.	Bus.	Ag.	Tot.		
Astley	360	245	57	7	6	70	88	7	10	105	29	43
Broadheath	308	266	118	7	-	125	137	9	3	149	48	56
Broadwas	94	75	28	-	5	33	37	1	5	43	46	57
Clifton	137	100	89	6	5	100	89	6	5	100	73	100
Cotheridge	70	52	1	-	1	2	35	-	4	39	44	60
Doddenham	71	46	12	3	-	15	27	3	-	30	42	65
Grimley	190	135	49	4	2	55	60	6	5	71	37	53
Hallow	367	330	206	12	7	225	226	12	7	245	67	74
Holt	123	74	2	-	-	2	45	5	5	55	44	73
Martley	303	211	76	9	8	93	98	9	9	116	38	55
St. John County	290	281	185	5	3	193	227	8	3	238	82	84
Shrawley	154	112	33	2	7	42	57	3	10	70	45	62
Wichenford	125	108	43	-	7	50	49	1	11	61	48	56
Lt. Witley	62	48	22	1	1	24	27	3	4	34	55	71
Total	2654	2083	921	56	52	1029	1202	73	81	1356	50.7	64.7

Percentage of total premises in Parishes adjacent to mains - 78.4.

Monthly Pumping - 1958
(in thousands of gallons)

	<u>Astley</u>	<u>Clifton</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	2524	255	2779
February	2400	224	2624
March	2456	254	2710
April	2553	268	2821
May	2870	265	3135
June	2870	233	3103
July	3021	219	3240
August	3255	214	3469
September	3004	217	3221
October	3062	214	3276
November	2922	195	3117
December	3378	215	3593
Total	<u>34,315</u>	<u>2,773</u>	<u>37,088</u>

Total 1958 - 37,088,000 gallons

Total 1957 - 11,628,000 gallons

Domestic Use - 25,283,000 gallons.

Trade Use

Amount supplied by meter during year -

Agricultural - 7,848,000 gallons

Business - 3,957,000 gallons

Total 11,805,000

Number of meters in use at 31.12.58 - 185.

Estimated consumption per head of population supplied -

Domestic - 18 gallons per day.

Trade - 9 gallons per day.

Water Mains in Parishes as at 31st December 1958.

Parish	Size of Main	Length of main	Total
		Miles	Miles
Abberley	6" Pumping & Service	0.35	
	4" Service	0.47	
	3" "	2.98	3.80
Astley	10" Pumping	1.39	
	6" Service	2.65	
	4" "	1.27	
	3" "	1.68	6.99
Broadheath	6" Service	2.46	
	4" "	0.63	
	3" "	3.17	6.26
Broadwas	4" Service	1.97	
	3" "	0.94	2.91
Cotheridge	4" Service	1.63	
	3" "	1.31	2.94
Clifton	3" Pumping	1.47	
	3" Service	.41	1.88
Doddenham	6" Service	0.59	
	3" "	1.45	2.04
Grimley	8" Service	1.78	
	4" "	1.92	
	3" "	2.30	6.00
Hallow	8" Service	0.61	
	6" "	1.55	
	3" "	1.23	3.39
Hillhampton	3" Service	1.43	1.43
Holt	4" Service	1.43	
	3" "	1.91	3.34
Martley	6" Service & Pumping	3.62	
	4" Service	3.76	
	3" "	1.08	8.46
St. John County	4" Service	1.19	
	3" "	1.65	2.84
Shrawley	10" Pumping	1.92	
	4" Service	0.92	
	3" "	1.77	4.61
Wichenford	10" Pumping	1.57	
	8" Service	1.82	
	3" "	1.34	4.73

Carried forward 61.62 miles

Parish	Size of main	Length of main	Total
		Miles	Miles
		Brought forward	61.62
Witley, Great	6" Pumping	0.53	
	6" Pumping & Service	0.70	
	6" Service	0.55	
	3" "	1.63	3.41
Witley, Little	10" Pumping	1.32	
	4" Service	0.34	
	3" "	0.09	1.75

Total miles of mains in District -66.78

Comprehensive Scheme

Part II -

Work continued on the construction of this part of the scheme to serve 5 parishes but was not finished to the completion date as laid down in the contract. The construction of the reservoir and the installation of the booster pumps delayed completion and only two of the five parishes were supplied with mains water by the end of the year.

Part III

The Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to prepare the scheme for supplying those parishes not included in Parts I and II and the alignment of the mains was agreed by the Council. It was the aim of the Council to start work on this part of the scheme in 1959 and to complete it early in 1961.

Regrouping of Water Undertakings

During the year preliminary meetings of all the water-undertakings proposing to amalgamate to form the North-West Worcestershire Water Board were held and it was decided to prepare a draft Order. It was suggested that this Authority should form part of a Water Board centred in Worcester but the Council re-affirmed their decision to join the North-West Worcestershire groups.

General

A 3" water main extension, 102 yards in length, was carried out by direct labour to serve new housing development at Oakleigh Road, Hallow.

Five burst mains were repaired during the year, four in Broadheath and one at Holt.

In April the Council revised the water charges relating to metered supplies and increased the tapping charges by £2.

4 Samples of water were taken from the boreholes for bacteriological examination and all were approved for drinking purposes. In no case were any coliform bacilli or faecal coli found. Samples of water from the mains were passed as fit for drinking in every case.

Water Supply to Council Houses

No shortage of water was experienced during the year from any of the small boreholes or wells supplying groups of houses but several boreholes have to be used carefully owing to their limited supply. Difficulty has again been experienced with hard water and frequent descaling of pipes and back boilers has to be carried out at some sites.

The following table shows the progress in connecting up Council Houses to the mains supply:-

Progress in Supply of Mains Water to Council Houses

<u>Parish</u>	<u>As at 31.12.57.</u>		<u>Provided 1958</u>	
	<u>Full Service</u>	<u>Standpipe</u>	<u>Full Service</u>	<u>Standpipe</u>
Astley - Berringtons		4		
Sandhampton	22			
Broadheath- Grange Road	49			
Crown East Lane		6		
Broadwas - Weston Hill		4		
Cotheridge- Church Lane			14	
Otherton Lane			2	
Grimley - Sinton Green	10			
Hallow - Ladygo				4
The Heath	45			
Holt - The Heath	20			
Martley - Jury Lane	34			
Berrow Green		2		
Shrawley - New Inn Lane				6
Rectory Lane				6
Wichenford- Queen's Estate	30			
Lt. Witley- Well Lane	16			
Doddenham - Darbys Green				6
St. John				
County- Crown East				4
Clifton	23			
	<u>249</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>26</u>
Totals - House Supply	-265			
Standpipe Supply	- 42			
	<u>307</u>			

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection

No change in the scheme of refuse collection was made during the year and the following collections were made:-

	<u>Fortnightly collection of all house refuse</u>		<u>Two-monthly collection of incombustible refuse</u>
Parishes of:-	Broadheath Hallow Clifton-on-Teme Bransford St. John County Grimley Holt	Parishes of:-	Abberley Astley Cotheridge Doddenham Hillhampton Kenswick Knightwick Lulsley Sapey Pitchard Shelsley Beauchamp Shelsley Kings Shelsley Walsh Shrawley Wichenford Greaß Witley Little Witley
Parts of Parishes of:-	Alfrick Suckley Martley Leigh	Parts of Parishes of:-	Alfrick Martley Leigh Suckley

This scheme of collection is maintained with a labour force of 5 men and two 10 cu.yd., end loading, tipping vehicles.

(b) Refuse Storage

The Council continued to encourage the use of suitable dustbins by selling to the public at cost price plus a small delivery charge. 69 bins were sold during the year but there are still too many premises where refuse is stored in unsuitable containers which are un-hygienic and make emptying difficult.

(c) Refuse Disposal

The provision of suitable sites for tipping to serve all parts of the district, except the extreme north-western area, is satisfactory and the following tips are now in use:-

Clifton-on-Teme	- Steps Farm.
Grimley	- Old Gravel Pit.
Hillhampton	- Dodoak.
Leigh	- Braces Farm,
Martley	- Old Brickyard.

6. SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice-cream

Number of premises registered for manufacture and sale	Nil
Number of premises registered for sale only	59

Pre-packed ice-cream only is sold from all premises and this is contained in refrigerators; facilities for hand-washing, etc. are provided at all premises.

Food Premises

The following food premises are in use in the district:-

(a) Unregistered

Food Shops

Butchers Shops	2
Other food shops	45
Cafes	3
Inns, Hotels and Public Houses	37

(b) Registered

Slaughterhouses... ..	2
Bakehouses	3
Ice-cream manufacturers.	Nil
Ice-cream retailers	59

Inspection of Registered Premises

The following visits and inspections of registered and other premises have been carried out during the year:-

Slaughterhouses... ..	103
Ice-cream manufacturers.	Nil
Ice-cream retailers	23
Butchers Shops	24
Food Shops	39
Cafes	10
Bakehouses	6
Inns, Hotels and Public Houses	27

Generally speaking, all premises are kept clean and provided with adequate sanitary accommodation and hand washing facilities for the employees.

Education in Food Hygiene

Owing to the scattered nature of the district it is impracticable to attempt any courses of lectures in food hygiene. The majority of the food premises in the district are family businesses where hired assistants are not usually employed. Advice and instruction in food hygiene is given during the normal inspections of the premises where it is thought to be necessary.

Slaughterhouses

The two slaughterhouses in operation in the district are kept in a satisfactory condition and the standard of slaughtering and quality of meat has been consistently high.

All the animals killed at the slaughterhouses have been examined post mortem and all meat found to be unfit for human consumption was surrendered voluntarily, stained and disposed of to approved dealers.

A table showing the number of animals inspected and those found to be diseased in whole or in part is contained in the report of the Medical Officer of Health. The absence of disease can be explained by the fact that the butchers have a local family trade only and can only buy in the best quality animals to retain that trade. The majority of the pigs killed are bred by one of the butchers on his own farm.

Milk Production

The duties remaining with the local authority under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1949 were carried out and all the premises used are satisfactory.

There are no pasteurising plants in the District. 12 dairymen were issued with licences to retail designated milks, all of whom purchase their milk from sources outside the district.

Food and Drugs Adulteration

The responsibility for this work rests with the Worcestershire County Council.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Mortuary Accommodation

Notice was received from Droitwich Borough Council that the existing mortuary owned by them was considered by the Coroner to be unsatisfactory and that use of it would have to be discontinued. This mortuary was used to house bodies from the Martley area and, after discussions with other interested local authorities, the Council decided to provide a mortuary by converting an existing building at Martley. The preparation of the preliminary details was in hand at the end of the year.

(b) Camps and Moveable Dwellings

Regular inspections of all camping sites and sites for moveable dwellings were made and informal action only was required to keep the sites up to the standard required.

New sites for 42 caravans were licensed during the year, 12 of which were used for permanent accommodation, the remaining 30 being an extension of a holiday caravan site.

(c) Hop-Pickers Accommodation

Inspections of barracks used to house hop-pickers were made during the few weeks of the picking season. Over 75 per cent of the hop farms in the district now have machine picking; in 1955 the number of pickers housed in the district was 1,530 but this year the number was reduced to approximately 760.

In general the condition of the barracks was good with an improvement in scavenging.

The reduction in numbers of pickers had enabled the County Council to discontinue their practice of engaging additional district nurses, and the work was carried out satisfactorily by the permanent district nurses.

(d) Petroleum Acts

The total number of storage licences issued during the year was 76 and the gallonage involved was 63,710.

Three new installations were approved.

Work commenced during the latter part of the year on the inspection and testing of existing petroleum installations as suggested in the new Codes of Practice issued by the Home Office. This work which entails a number of visits to each premises in company with engineers appointed to carry out the various tests will necessarily take a considerable time to complete and more details will be contained in next year's report.

(e) Rodent Control

With the withdrawal of the Agricultural Executive Committee from the active field of rodent control the Council decided to accept the responsibility of rodent destruction on agricultural and other premises on a contract basis in much the same way as the Agricultural Executive Committee had operated. During the year 20 such contracts were made and routine treatments commenced.

It is hoped to extend the service to cover most of the farms in the district and thus effectively control the rodent population throughout the whole area.

The use of cyanide gas on concentrations of rats in such locations as hedgerows was brought more into use during the latter part of the year and it is intended to extend this method of extermination in an endeavour to reduce the numbers of the animals before the annual movement from the fields to buildings during the late autumn.

Routine free treatments of dwellinghouses were continued during the year and in a few instances business premises were treated on an hourly basis, the charge being 7/6d. per hour.

The number of treatments carried out during the year was as follows:-

<u>Type pf Premises</u>				<u>Treatments</u>
(i)	Private Dwellings ...	...	...	646
(ii)	Business Premises ...	...	...	47
(iii)	Local authority sewers ...	...	...	12
(iv)	Local authority refuse tips ...	...	...	35
(v)	Agricultural premises ...	...	...	51
				<u>791</u>

(f) Means of Escape in case of Fire

Two certificates under Section 34 of the Factories Act 1937 as to adequate means of escape in case of fire were issued. Valuable assistance is afforded by the Fire Prevention Officer of the Worcester City and County Fire Brigade by means of inspection reports on factories for this purpose and I am grateful for their advice.

SUPERVISION OF WORK PLACES

The following is a summary of the work carried out under this heading:-

	Registered	Inspections	Defects	
			Found	Remedied
Factories with power	35	21	4	4
Factories with-out power	4	4	1	1
Totals	39	25	5	5

In addition two inspections were made of the premises used by outworkers in the making of gloves.

